

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-14

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TO AMEMBASSY PANAMA

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:PBOR, PN, US

SUBJECT: HIGHLIGHTS OF WORKING GROUP MEETING, AUG. 18, 1978

1. WYROUGH REPORTED THAT THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
ON AUTHORITY OF THE AMBASSADOR AND ADMINISTRATOR IS BEING
CIRCULATED FOR FORMAL APPROVAL WITHIN STATE AND DOD.

2. JACKLEY REPORTED THAT THE GAO SENT REPRESENTATIVES TO
PANAMA FOR A PRELIMINARY EVALUATION OF ALLEGATIONS MADE BY
CONG. HANSEN IN A JUNE 29 DEAR COLLEAGUE LETTER THAT DOD IS
SPENDING MONEY ILLEGALLY FOR PRE-IMPLEMENTATION. GAO WILL
BEGIN THE INVESTIGATION IN WASHINGTON.

3. AN ARMY REPRESENTATIVE MET WITH SEN. HOLLINGS TO DIS-
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CUSS A POSSIBLE AMENDMENT TO THE DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT
WHICH WOULD AUTHORIZE THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY TO REINTER
REMAINS DURING THE COMING DRY SEASON. UNDER THIS PROPOSAL,
ARMY WOULD CONTRACT WITH THE COMPANY TO DO THE WORK.
JACKLEY FELT THE CHANCES LOOKED GOOD.

4. DOD CONTINUES TO HAVE PROBLEMS OBTAINING AUTHORIZATION

FOR 40 MILLION DOLLARS FOR BASE RELOCATION. THERE IS LITTLE CHANCE FOR A BUDGET SUPPLEMENTAL. VARIOUS ALTERNATIVES INVOLVING EMERGENCY CONTINGENCY FUNDS ARE UNDER DISCUSSION.

5. POPPER HAS BEEN INFORMED THAT THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS WILL MEET TO REVIEW COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSED GUIDELINES FOR MOVABLE PROPERTY TRANSFER. POPPER WILL DISCUSS THE NEED FOR INTER-AGENCY REVIEW OF THE GUIDELINES WITH DOLVIN NEXT WEEK.

6. FORTUNE SUGGESTED THAT IT MIGHT BE AN APPROPRIATE TIME TO CONSULT WITH THE GOP ON COLLECTIVE BARGAINING SINCE THE MATTER APPLIED TO WHAT WILL BE COMMISSION POLICY AND IS THEREFORE OF LEGITIMATE CONCERN TO PANAMA. AS A PRACTICAL MATTER, THE GOP MIGHT BECOME INVOLVED IF THE DISCUSSIONS WITH PANAMANIAN LABOR BECOME ACRIMONIOUS. JACKLEY WILL DISCUSS THE PROPOSAL WITH PANCANAL.

7. JACKLEY IS WORKING WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM ABMC ON A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WHICH WOULD ALLOW DOD TO USE THE REMAINING CEMETERY SPACE IN COROZAL. VANCE

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